

Regional Economic Indicators

Government of Alberta ■



Regional Economic Indicators Central Region

July 2009



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MAJOR MUNICIPALITIES

According to Statistics Canada census data, the major municipality in the Central Region that had the largest per cent increase in population from 2001 to 2006 was Sylvan Lake with an increase of 36.1% or 2,705 residents. The major municipality that gained the largest number of residents over the same period was Red Deer with an increase of 14,943 (or 22.0%).

| Major Municipalities * | Status | 2006 Population | 2001 Population | 1996 Population |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Red Deer | City | 82,772 | 67,829 | 60,075 |
| Red Deer County | Municipal District | 19,108 | 18,492 | 17,126 |
| Mountain View County | Municipal District | 12,391 | 12,124 | 11,277 |
| Clearwater County | Municipal District | 12,030 | 11,707 | 10,915 |
| Wetaskiwin | City | 11,673 | 11,154 | 10,959 |
| Lacombe | Town | 10,742 | 9,384 | 8,018 |
| Wetaskiwin County | Municipal District | 12,138 | 11,983 | 10,467 |
| Lacombe County | Municipal District | 10,483 | 10,609 | 10,081 |
| Ponoka County | Municipal District | 8,672 | 8,806 | 8,313 |
| Sylvan Lake | Town | 10,208 | 7,503 | 5,178 |

^{*} Top ten cities/towns and municipalities in region, based on population from census years.

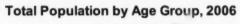
| | 2001 - 200 | 6 (5 Years) | 1996 - 2006 (10 Years) | | |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|------------|--|
| Major Municipalities | % Change | Net Change | % Change | Net Change | |
| Red Deer | 22.0% | 14,943 | 37.8% | 22,697 | |
| Red Deer County | 3.3% | 616 | 11.6% | 1,982 | |
| Mountain View County | 2.2% | 267 | 9.9% | 1,114 | |
| Clearwater County | 2.8% | 323 | 10.2% | 1,115 | |
| Wetaskiwin | 4.7% | 519 | 6.5% | 714 | |
| Lacombe | 14.5% | 1,358 | 34.0% | 2,724 | |
| Wetaskiwin County | 1.3% | 155 | 16.0% | 1,671 | |
| Lacombe County | -1.2% | (126) | 4.0% | 402 | |
| Ponoka County | -1.5% | (134) | 4.3% | 359 | |
| Sylvan Lake | 36.1% | 2,705 | 97.1% | 5,030 | |

DEMOGRAPHICS

According to Statistics Canada's census data, the Central Region's population increased by 10.5% or 26,532 residents from 2001 to 2006. The region's population accounts for 8.5% of the province's population.

| Economic Indicators: Central Region | and the state of the said of t |
|--|--|
| Land Area | Central |
| Square Kilometers | 45,938.6 |
| % of Provincial Total | 7.2% |
| Total Population | Central |
| Population (000s), 2006 Census | 278,990 |
| % of Provincial Total | 8.5% |
| Population (000s), 2001 Census | 252,458 |
| % of Provincial Total | 8.5% |
| Population (000s), 1996 Census | 230,175 |
| % of Provincial Total | 8.5% |
| Population Growth (%), 2001 - 2006 | 10.5% |
| Population Growth (%), 1996 - 2006 | 21.2% |
| Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006 | t to the |

| Economic Indicators: Central Region | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|------|--|--|--|
| Population Components | 2006 | 2001 | 1996 | | | |
| Age Group: 65+ (%) | 12.2 | 11.7 | 11.8 | | | |
| Age Group: 0 - 14 (%) | 20.2 | 23.9 | 21.9 | | | |
| Dependency Ratio 1 | 47.7 | 55.2 | 51.4 | | | |
| Old Age Dependency Ratio ² | 18.0 | 18.1 | 18.0 | | | |
| Males, Ages 0 -14 (%) | 20.6 | 24.4 | 22.6 | | | |
| Females, Ages 0 - 14 (%) | 19.7 | 23.4 | 21.5 | | | |
| Males, Ages 15 - 64 (%) | 68.3 | 65.1 | 66.5 | | | |
| Females, Ages 15 - 64 (%) | 67.0 | 63.8 | 65.5 | | | |
| Males, Ages 65+ (%) | 11.1 | 10.5 | 10.9 | | | |
| Females, Ages 65+ (%) | 13.2 | 12.8 | 13.0 | | | |





IMMIGRATION - PERMANENT RESIDENTS

According to Citizenship and Immigration Canada, in 2007, 739 immigrants selected a location in the Central Region as their destination of choice on their permanent residence application form.

Please note: This figure does not include temporary foreign workers, students or temporary residents. Also, those that selected a certain province as their destination of choice on their permanent residence application are not required to move to the province indicated. This means that there could potentially be data missing due to immigrants indicating once province as their destination and then actually moving to another.

The annualized percentage growth in immigration from 1997 to 2007 for the Central Region was 7.3%. The annualized percentage growth from 1997 to 2007 for Alberta was 4.8%. The total change for the Central Region was 106.4% (381) between 2002 and 2007, and 103.0% (375) between 1997 and 2007.

| Immigrants, CIC (Permanent Residents) 3 | Central |
|--|---------|
| As of December 31, 1997 | 364 |
| % of Province | 2.8% |
| As of December 31, 1998 | 359 |
| % of Province | 3.2% |
| As of December 31, 1999 | 449 |
| % of Province | 3.7% |
| As of December 31, 2000 | 403 |
| % of Province | 2.8% |
| As of December 31, 2001 | 426 |
| % of Province | 2.6% |
| As of December 31, 2002 | 358 |
| % of Province | 2.4% |
| As of December 31, 2003 | 383 |
| % of Province | 2.4% |
| As of December 31, 2004 | 478 |
| % of Province | 2.9% |
| As of December 31, 2005 | 511 |
| % of Province | 2.6% |
| As of December 31, 2006 | 506 |
| % of Province | 2.5% |
| As of December 31, 2007 | 739 |
| % of Province | 3.6% |
| Annualized Percentage Growth, 1997 - 2007, 10 years ⁴ | 7.3% |

LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

According to Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey, the Central Region's employment rate for the working age population of 15 years and older was 72.5% in 2007 and the participation rate was 74.9%.

In 2007, the Central Region's employment rate for the 15 to 24 year old age group was 69.7% and the participation rate was 74.6%. In that same year, the unemployment rate for the working age population of 15 years and older was 3.3% and the unemployment rate for the 15 to 24 year old age group was 6.9%. Alberta had the lowest unemployment rate of all provinces in 2007 at 3.5% - well below the national average of 6.0%.

Between 2006 and 2007, the number of people employed in Alberta grew by 4.7% or by 88,700. Over that same period, employment in the Central Region grew by 18,900 or 12.9%. Between 2002 and 2007, the number of people employed grew by about 289,000 or 17.2% in Alberta, and by 19,200 or 21.4% in the Central Region.

In 2007, Alberta made up 10.3% of Canada's working age population (15+ years), and the province created just under one quarter or 23.2% of all new jobs in Canada. Alberta created nearly as many new jobs as Ontario (88,700 vs 101,100), which has more than three times the working age population of Alberta.

| | 4 | Will have | | rgent West | |
|-------|--|--|---|---|---|
| 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 |
| 228.6 | 208.2 | 195.0 | 187.9 | 205.5 | 201.6 |
| 171.3 | 152.3 | 141.7 | 135.7 | 149.4 | 144.6 |
| 165.7 | 146.8 | 137.0 | 130.1 | 141.3 | 136.5 |
| 5.6 | 5.5 | 4.7 | 5.6 | 8.2 | 8.1 |
| 74.9 | 73.2 | 72.7 | 72.2 | 72.7 | 71.7 |
| 3.3 | 3.6 | 3.3 | 4.1 | 5.5 | 5.6 |
| 72.5 | 70.5 | 70.3 | 69.2 | 68.8 | 67.7 |
| 74.6 | 74.9 | 74.4 | 74.0 | 73.8 | 73.8 |
| 6.9 | 7.0 | 6.8 | 6.8 | 11.0 | 10.2 |
| 69.7 | 69.9 | 69.3 | 69.0 | 65.9 | 66.6 |
| | 228.6 171.3 165.7 5.6 74.9 3.3 72.5 74.6 6.9 69.7 | 228.6 208.2 171.3 152.3 165.7 146.8 5.6 5.5 74.9 73.2 3.3 3.6 72.5 70.5 74.6 74.9 6.9 7.0 69.7 69.9 | 228.6 208.2 195.0 171.3 152.3 141.7 165.7 146.8 137.0 5.6 5.5 4.7 74.9 73.2 72.7 3.3 3.6 3.3 72.5 70.5 70.3 74.6 74.9 74.4 6.9 7.0 6.8 69.7 69.9 69.3 | 228.6 208.2 195.0 187.9 171.3 152.3 141.7 135.7 165.7 146.8 137.0 130.1 5.6 5.5 4.7 5.6 74.9 73.2 72.7 72.2 3.3 3.6 3.3 4.1 72.5 70.5 70.3 69.2 74.6 74.9 74.4 74.0 6.9 7.0 6.8 6.8 69.7 69.9 69.3 69.0 | 228.6 208.2 195.0 187.9 205.5 171.3 152.3 141.7 135.7 149.4 165.7 146.8 137.0 130.1 141.3 5.6 5.5 4.7 5.6 8.2 74.9 73.2 72.7 72.2 72.7 3.3 3.6 3.3 4.1 5.5 72.5 70.5 70.3 69.2 68.8 74.6 74.9 74.4 74.0 73.8 6.9 7.0 6.8 6.8 11.0 |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey N/A=data are suppressed due to insufficient sample size.

Statistics Canada cautions the reader that the regional labour force data may be subject to large year-toyear fluctuations, especially for the smaller regions, for the following reasons. First, there are no population control totals for special geographies such as these regions. Second, some of the smaller regions have small sample size, leading to greater volatility in the estimates. Third, Statistics Canada periodically redesigns its survey methodology; the latest redesign was done in 2005.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

In 2007, according to the Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey, the services-producing sector in the Central Region accounted for 60% of the total number employed.

The Retail Trade industry had the largest number of individuals employed with approximately 20,300 jobs. This industry is followed by Mining and Oil & Gas, Construction and Agriculture.

| . The time As. | J. Bright . | N | - was | | 1 |
|----------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 |
| 165.7 | 146.8 | 137.0 | 130.1 | 141.3 | 136.5 |
| 60.6 | 50.4 | 49.6 | 48.3 | 50.7 | 47.6 |
| 13.6 | 11.9 | 10.3 | 12.3 | 14.4 | 14.5 |
| 16.7 | 11.9 | 13.3 | 13.4 | 11.8 | 9.4 |
| 1.9 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 16.4 | 15.1 | 15.0 | 13.3 | 13.6 | 12.4 |
| 11.9 | 10.0 | 10.7 | 8.6 | 10.3 | 11.1 |
| 105.1 | 96.4 | 87.4 | 81.9 | 90.5 | 88.9 |
| 5.8 | 4.9 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 4.7 |
| 20.3 | 15.8 | 15.2 | 15.4 | 16.4 | 14.9 |
| 6.4 | 6.5 | 6,0 | 6.0 | 6.8 | 7.4 |
| 7.6 | 6.8 | 5.1 | 5.4 | 5.6 | 5.4 |
| 8.6 | 6.2 | 5.8 | 4.4 | 5.6 | 5.9 |
| 4.3 | 5.3 | 5.7 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.2 |
| 10.2 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 7.5 | 8.6 | 8.3 |
| 16.0 | 14.8 | 16.9 | 13.8 | 13.8 | 12.8 |
| 4.3 | 4.1 | 3.9 | 3.1 | 4.4 | 5.6 |
| 8.9 | 9.7 | 6.7 | 9.2 | 10.4 | 10.2 |
| 7.9 | 8.1 | 6.5 | 6.2 | 6.0 | 6.9 |
| 4.9 | 5.7 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 5.4 | 3.7 |
| | 2007 165.7 60.6 13.6 16.7 1.9 16.4 11.9 105.1 5.8 20.3 6.4 7.6 8.6 4.3 10.2 16.0 4.3 8.9 7.9 | 2007 2006 165.7 146.8 60.6 50.4 13.6 11.9 16.7 11.9 1.9 N/A 16.4 15.1 11.9 10.0 105.1 96.4 5.8 4.9 20.3 15.8 6.4 6.5 7.6 6.8 8.6 6.2 4.3 5.3 10.2 8.5 16.0 14.8 4.3 4.1 8.9 9.7 7.9 8.1 | 2007 2006 2005 165.7 146.8 137.0 60.6 50.4 49.6 13.6 11.9 10.3 16.7 11.9 13.3 1.9 N/A N/A 16.4 15.1 15.0 11.9 10.0 10.7 105.1 96.4 87.4 5.8 4.9 3.7 20.3 15.8 15.2 6.4 6.5 6,0 7.6 6.8 5.1 8.6 6.2 5.8 4.3 5.3 5.7 10.2 8.5 8.6 16.0 14.8 16.9 4.3 4.1 3.9 8.9 9.7 6.7 7.9 8.1 6.5 | 2007 2006 2005 2004 165.7 146.8 137.0 130.1 60.6 50.4 49.6 48.3 13.6 11.9 10.3 12.3 16.7 11.9 13.3 13.4 1.9 N/A N/A N/A 16.4 15.1 15.0 13.3 11.9 10.0 10.7 8.6 105.1 96.4 87.4 81.9 5.8 4.9 3.7 3.9 20.3 15.8 15.2 15.4 6.4 6.5 6,0 6.0 7.6 6.8 5.1 5.4 8.6 6.2 5.8 4.4 4.3 5.3 5.7 3.7 10.2 8.5 8.6 7.5 16.0 14.8 16.9 13.8 4.3 4.1 3.9 3.1 8.9 9.7 6.7 9.2 7.9 | 2007 2006 2005 2004 2003 165.7 146.8 137.0 130.1 141.3 60.6 50.4 49.6 48.3 50.7 13.6 11.9 10.3 12.3 14.4 16.7 11.9 13.3 13.4 11.8 1.9 N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A 16.4 15.1 15.0 13.3 13.6 11.9 10.0 10.7 8.6 10.3 105.1 96.4 87.4 81.9 90.5 5.8 4.9 3.7 3.9 3.7 20.3 15.8 15.2 15.4 16.4 6.4 6.5 6,0 6.0 6.8 7.6 6.8 5.1 5.4 5.6 8.6 6.2 5.8 4.4 5.6 4.3 5.3 5.7 3.7 3.8 10.2 8.5 8.6 7.5 8.6 |

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey
N/A= data are suppressed due to insufficient sample size.

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Employment by Industry, Central, 2007 (In '000s)



INCOME, TAXFILER

In 2006, the average individual income for all taxfilers for the Central Region was \$33,305, a 12.9% increase from 2005. The percentage of taxfilers that reported an individual gross income of \$100,000 and over was 5.2%.

| Individual Income ⁷ | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Average Individual Income (\$) | 33,305 | 29,505 | 25,975 |
| Income Range | | % | |
| Negative Claims (Includes \$0) | 21.7% | 20.8% | 21.5% |
| \$1 - \$20,000 | 28.8% | 31.4% | 33.4% |
| \$20,000 - \$40,000 | 19.8% | 20.5% | 20.8% |
| \$40,000 - \$60,000 | 12.5% | 12.1% | 11.6% |
| \$60,000 - \$80,000 | 8.0% | 7.4% | 6.8% |
| \$80,000 - \$99,999 | 4.0% | 3.5% | 3.0% |
| \$100,000+ | 5.2% | 4.2% | 3.1% |

In 2006, the average couple (defined as married or common law) income for all taxfilers for the Central Region was \$98,815, a 13.9% increase from 2005. The percentage of taxfilers that defined themselves as a couple and reported an income of \$100,000 and over was 32.5%.

| Couple Income ⁷ | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Average Couple Income (\$) | 98,815 | 86,720 | 77,290 |
| Income Range | | % | |
| Negative Claims (Includes \$0) | 0.4% | 0.5% | 0.6% |
| \$1 - \$20,000 | 5.7% | 6.3% | 7.6% |
| \$20,000 - \$40,000 | 14.8% | 16.9% | 19.3% |
| \$40,000 - \$60,000 | 16.0% | 17.6% | 19.1% |
| \$60,000 - \$80,000 | 16.2% | 17.5% | 17.9% |
| \$80,000 - \$99,999 | 14.4% | 13.9% | 13.3% |
| \$100,000+ | 32.5% | 27.3% | 22.2% |

INVESTMENT

In 2007, the total building permits value for the Central Region increased by 33.0% from 2006 to \$1.2 billion, almost double the 10-year average of \$626 million. Between 2006 and 2007, the residential building permit value for the region increased by 16.1% to \$706.5 million.

In 2007, the number of housing starts in the Central Region decreased by 6.9% from 2006 to 3,786. However, the 2007 number of starts was still 27.6% more than the 10-year average of 2,967. The number of single family housing starts in the Central Region decreased by 2.9% from 2006 to 2,942 units.

| Economic Indicators: Central Region | The state of the state of the | | * | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------|---------|--|
| Building Permit Values and Housing Starts (2007) | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | |
| Total Building Permit Value (\$000s) | 1,224,804 | 920,785 | 685,124 | |
| % of Provincial Total | 7.8% | 6.6% | 6.7% | |
| Per Capita Building Permit Value (\$) ⁸ | 4,390 | 3,300 | 2,532 | |
| Total Building Permit Value (\$000s), 5-year average (2003 - 2007) | 776,515 | | | |
| Total Building Permit Value (\$000s), 10-year average (1998 - 2007) | | 626,088 | | |
| Commercial Building Permit Value (\$000s) | 278,974 | 192,920 | 139,868 | |
| Commercial % of Total Building Permit Value | 22.8% | 21.0% | 20.4% | |
| % of Provincial Commercial Building Permit Value | 5.7% | 5.3% | 5.9% | |
| Industrial Building Permit Value (\$000s) | 104,428 | 62,689 | 117,826 | |
| Industrial % of Total Building Permit Value | 8.5% | 6.8% | 17.2% | |
| % of Provincial Industrial Building Permit Value | 11.0% | 6.0% | 13.7% | |
| Institutional Building Permit Value (\$000s) | 134,888 | 56,890 | 10,615 | |
| Institutional % of Total Building Permit Value | 11.0% | 6.2% | 1.5% | |
| % of Provincial Institutional Building Permit Value | 15.5% | 5.6% | 1.2% | |
| Residential Building Permit Value (\$000s) | 706,514 | 608,286 | 416,815 | |
| Residential % of Total Building Permit Value | 57.7% | 66.1% | 60.8% | |
| % of Provincial Residential Building Permit Value | 7.8% | 7.5% | 6.9% | |
| Single Family Housing Starts | 2,942 | 3,031 | 2,270 | |
| Single Family Housing Starts, 5-year average (2003 - 2007) | | 2,411 | | |
| Single Family Housing Starts, 10-year average (1998 - 2007) | | 2,185 | | |
| Total Housing Starts | 3,786 | 4,067 | 3,155 | |
| Total Housing Starts, 5-year average (2003 - 2007) | | 3,310 | | |
| Total Housing Starts, 10-year average (1998 - 2007) | | 2,967 | | |

ESTABLISHMENTS WITH EMPLOYEES

In 2007, 68.9% of all business establishments with employees in the Central Region were classified in the services-producing sector, which includes such industries as Retail Trade, Accommodation and Food Services, and Public Administration.

From 2006 to 2007, there was a net increase of 3.3% or 444 in the number of establishments with employees for all industries in the Central Region. Between 2002 and 2007, the number of establishments with employees for all industries in the Central Region increased by 13.2% or 1,619 establishments.

From 2006 to 2007, the goods-producing sector in the Central Region had a net decrease of 1.1% or 47 establishments. Over the same period, the service-producing sector in the Central Region saw a net increase of 5.4% or 491 establishments.

| Establishment with Employees ⁹ | 2007 | 2006 | 2002 | 1 Year % Change | 5 Year % Change |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Total All Industries | 13,842 | 13,398 | 12,223 | 3.3% | 13.2% |
| Total Goods Industries | 4,304 | 4,351 | 4,066 | -1.1% | 5.9% |
| Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting | 1,011 | 1,132 | 1,283 | -10.7% | -21.2% |
| Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction | 918 | 874 | 667 | 5.0% | 37.6% |
| Utilities | 31 | 21 | 21 | 47.6% | 47.6% |
| Construction | 1,860 | 1,849 | 1,653 | 0.6% | 12.5% |
| Manufacturing | 484 | 475 | 442 | 1.9% | 9.5% |
| Total Service Industries | 9,538 | 9,047 | 8,157 | 5.4% | 16.9% |
| Wholesale Trade | 638 | 531 | 545 | 20.2% | 17.1% |
| Retail Trade | 1,475 | 1,341 | 1,272 | 10.0% | 16.0% |
| Transportation and Warehousing | 751 | 749 | 698 | 0.3% | 7.6% |
| Information and Cultural Industries | 84 | 84 | 78 | 0.0% | 7.7% |
| Finance and Insurance | 396 | 368 | 287 | 7.6% | 38.0% |
| Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 444 | 454 | 436 | -2.2% | 1.8% |
| Professional, Scientific and Technical Services | 1,593 | 1,658 | 1,286 | -3.9% | 23.9% |
| Management of Companies and Enterprises | 124 | 127 | 158 | -2.4% | -21.5% |
| Administrative, Waste Management and Remediation | 568 | 541 | 447 | 5.0% | 27.1% |
| Educational Services | 106 | 103 | 103 | 2.9% | 2.9% |
| Health Care and Social Assistance | 789 | 769 | 722 | 2.6% | 9.3% |
| Arts, Entertainment and Recreation | 198 | 206 | 210 | -3.9% | -5.7% |
| Accommodation and Food Services | 668 | 669 | 646 | -0.1% | 3.4% |
| Other Services (except Public Administration) | 1,638 | 1,381 | 1,195 | 18.6% | 37.1% |
| Public Administration | 66 | 66 | 74 | 0.0% | -10.8% |

Source: 2007 Alberta Business Monitor, Alberta Finance and Enterprise

SMALL BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS

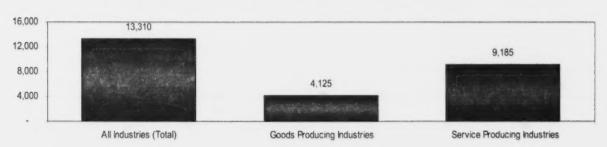
In 2007, 96.1% of all business establishments in the Central Region were classified as small business (businesses that have between 1 and 49 employees). The Construction industry had the largest number of small businesses followed by Other Services and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services.

From 2006 to 2007, the total number of small business establishments in the Central Region rose by 4.1% or 519 establishments. From 2002 to 2007, the region had a 12.9% increase in the total number of small business establishments with employees.

| Small Business Establishments ¹⁰ (1 - 49 employees) Total All Industries | 2007 13.310 | 2006 12.791 | 2002 | 1 Year % Change 4.1% | 5 Year % Change 12.9% |
|---|----------------|----------------|-------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Total Goods Industries | 4.125 | 4.132 | 3,930 | -0.2% | 5.0% |
| Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting | 1.004 | 1,119 | 1,278 | -10.3% | -21.4% |
| Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction | 855 | 805 | 628 | 6.2% | 36.1% |
| Utilities | 31 | 21 | 21 | 47.6% | 47.6% |
| Construction | 1.809 | 1.766 | 1.602 | 2.4% | 12.9% |
| Manufacturing | 426 | 421 | 401 | 1.2% | 6.2% |
| Total Service Industries | 9.185 | 8.659 | 7.862 | 6.1% | 16.8% |
| Wholesale Trade | 616 | 508 | 523 | 21.3% | 17.8% |
| Retail Trade | 1,396 | 1,261 | 1,209 | 10.7% | 15.5% |
| Transportation and Warehousing | 737 | 721 | 686 | 2.2% | 7.4% |
| Information and Cultural Industries | 77 | 80 | 73 | -3.8% | 5.5% |
| Finance and Insurance | 387 | 353 | 276 | 9.6% | 40.2% |
| Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | 436 | 427 | 412 | 2.1% | 5.8% |
| Professional, Scientific and Technical Services | 1,580 | 1,635 | 1,273 | -3.4% | 24.1% |
| Management of Companies and Enterprises | 117 | 115 | 151 | 1.7% | -22.5% |
| Administrative, Waste Management and Remediation | 562 | 535 | 443 | 5.0% | 26.9% |
| Educational Services | 90 | 87 | 90 | 3.4% | 0.0% |
| Health Care and Social Assistance | 735 | 721 | 674 | 1.9% | 9.1% |
| Arts, Entertainment and Recreation | 186 | 196 | 203 | -5.1% | -8.4% |
| Accommodation and Food Services | 609 | 619 | 609 | -1.6% | 0.0% |
| Other Services (except Public Administration) | 1,615 | 1,357 | 1,183 | 19.0% | 36.5% |
| Public Administration | 42 | 44 | 57 | -4.5% | -26.3% |

Small Business (1 - 49 Employees) Establishment Count, 2007

Source: 2007 Alberta Business Monitor, Alberta Finance and Enterprise



INVENTORY OF MAJOR PROJECTS

As of December 31, 2008, there were 106 projects, which were proposed, planned, under construction or recently completed, in all industries in the Central Region.

The total value for these 106 projects was \$4.4 billion. The largest projects are in the infrastructure sector.

Please note: 2008 and 2007 can not be compared because some projects are carried over several years and there is only one cost available for the entire project.

| Industry Sector | Projects | | Value (\$millions) | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|------|--------------------|-----------|--|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 | |
| Agriculture and Related | 1 | 0 | \$8.5 | \$0.0 | |
| Biofuels | 4 | 3 | \$700.0 | \$620.0 | |
| Commercial/Retail | 7 | 12 | \$194.7 | \$394.8 | |
| Commercial/Retail and Residential | 1 | 2 | \$35.0 | \$40.0 | |
| Infrastructure | 39 | 38 | \$1,011.2 | \$855.7 | |
| Institutional | 24 | 23 | \$568.7 | \$488.2 | |
| Manufacturing | 2 | 0 | \$37.5 | \$0.0 | |
| Other Industrial | 0 | 1 | \$0.0 | \$7.5 | |
| Mining | 1 | 0 | \$5.3 | \$0.0 | |
| Oil & Gas | 1 | 1 | \$28.0 | \$28.0 | |
| Pipelines | 2 | 4 | \$114.0 | \$114.0 | |
| Power | 5 | 7 | \$1,020 | \$1,066.5 | |
| Residential | 11 | 13 | \$272.0 | \$371.7 | |
| Tourism/Recreation | 8 | 11 | \$386.5 | \$213.9 | |
| TOTAL | 106 | 115 | \$4,381.4 | \$4,200.3 | |

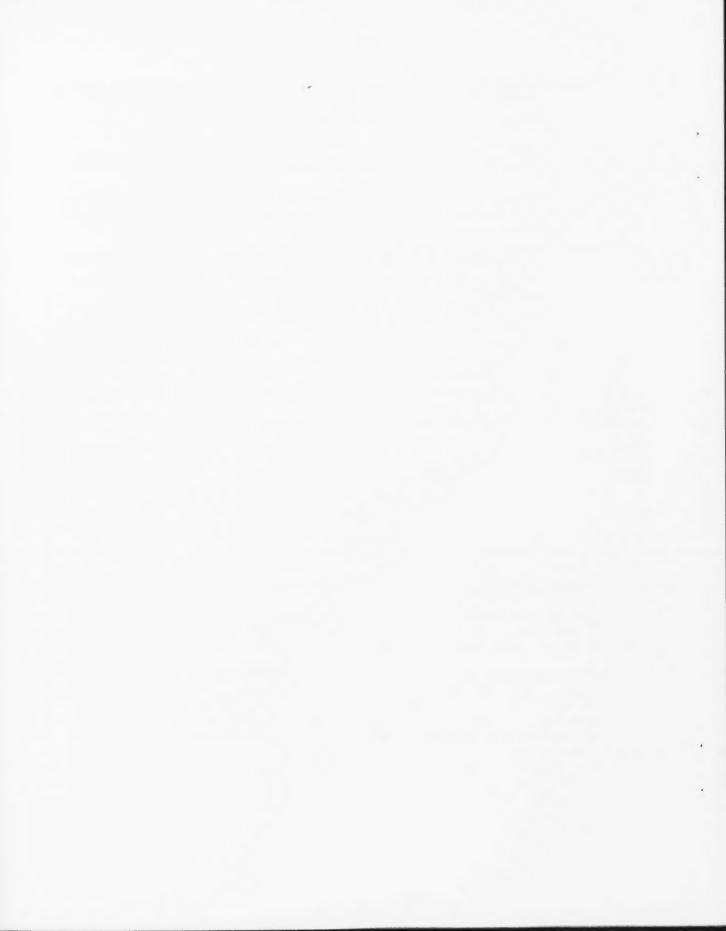
- 1. This inventory lists projects in Alberta, valued at \$5 million or greater, which have recently been completed, are currently under construction, or are proposed to start construction within two years. Not all projects over this threshold are listed due to reasons of confidentiality and/or due to information not being available at time of printing.
- 2. Project data is obtained from public information sources. Although, where possible, this data has been verified with the project proponent/developer, users of the Inventory may wish to confirm project data with the proponent/developer.
- 3. The inventory does not breakdown project expenditures by any given year. The cost of the project is the value of expenditures expected over all phases of project construction, which may span over two or more years.
- 4. The costs of projects listed in the inventory are estimated values only.

Economic Indicator Definitions

- **1 Dependency Ratio** The percentage of the population below the age of 15 (Child) and over the age of 64 (Elderly) divided by the number of adults (15 64). This is the population of children and elderly that are dependent on the adult population for economic needs.
- **2 Old Age Dependency Ratio** The percentage of the population over the age of 64 (Elderly) divided by the number of adults (15 64). This is the population that is dependent on the adult population for economic needs.
- **3 Permanent Immigrants** Citizenship and Immigration Canada's (CIC) count of where immigrants are landing within the province of Alberta. This includes spouses, dependents, entrepreneurs, investors, self employed, refugees and family sponsorship. This does not take into account those that land in other Canadian provinces and then move to Alberta.
- 4 Annualized Percentage Growth, 1997 2007, 10 Years (%) The average annual increase in immigrants over the 10 year period.
- **5 Labour Force Characteristics** Drawn from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS) or from the Census. The LFS is the source of current, monthly, and annual estimates of total employment (including self-employment) and unemployment. Allocating existing LFS respondents to Economic Indicator Regions results in insufficient data for certain regions (i.e. Insufficient sample sizes).
- **LABOUR FORCE**: Persons who are 15 years or over that were not institutional residents that were either employed or unemployed for the year. Labour Force = Employed + Unemployed.
- **PARTICIPATION RATE:** Number of persons from the Labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. Participation Rate = (Labour Force / Population 15 years and over)*100.
- **UNEMPLOYMENT RATE:** Number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. Unemployment Rate = (Unemployed / Labour Force)*100.
- **EMPLOYMENT RATE:** Number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. Employment Rate = (Employed / Population 15 years and over)*100.
- **6 Employment by Industry** Based on the LFS or Census data. Industry and occupation codes are assigned using the respondent's job description on the questionnaire. Codes assigned are based on the classifications described in the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 2002).

7 Income (2006)

- Individual Income: Gross income for individuals filing income tax in Alberta in 2006.
- **Couple Income:** Gross income for people that defined themselves as married or common law when filing the income tax in Alberta in 2006.
- 8 Per Capita Building Permit Value (\$) Total value of building permits for a region divided by its population.
- **9 Establishments with Employees** Business establishments are presented by the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) industry codes. Commercial industries are included as are several in the public sector (schools, universities, hospitals, government offices, churches, service clubs, etc.)
- **10 Small Business Establishments** Business establishment with less than 49 employees and at least one employee. This does not include individuals that are self-employed.
- 11 Major Projects As of December 2008, a list of major development projects in Alberta that are valued at \$5 million or more that are planned, currently under construction or recently completed. Project data is obtained from public information sources. Updated information is added monthly, print edition is updated quarterly.





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the following related department publications on the Internet at www.albertacanada.com/statpub:

You can access the Regional Economic Indicators reports and

- · Alberta's International Merchandise Exports
- · Facts on Alberta
- Highlights of the Alberta EconomyInventory of Major Alberta Projects
- · Monthly Economic Review
- Place-to-Place Price Comparison Survey

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